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13 Oct 84

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Date

17 Oct 84

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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

Chrono

September 14, 1984

Mr. Robert Magee
 Director of Personnel
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Magee:

Enclosed are questions relating to H.R. 5805, the legislation Representative Whitehurst and I introduced to provide benefits to certain former spouses of Central Intelligence Agency personnel. As I stated at the Subcommittee on Legislation hearing on September 12th, the questions and the Agency's responses will be included in the Subcommittee's hearing record on H.R. 5805.

We appreciated very much your helpful comments on the legislation at the hearing, and we look forward to working with you on the matter in the future.

Sincerely,

Romano L. Mazzoli
 Romano L. Mazzoli
 Chairman, Subcommittee
 on Legislation

Enclosure

QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD FOR THE CIA

(1) Please provide a brief overview of how well the 1982 CIA Former Spouses Retirement Equity Act has worked.

(2) What is CIA's estimate of the number of former CIA spouses who would be entitled to the annuity benefit provided for by H.R. 5805 and what is the basis for that estimate?

(3) What is CIA's estimate of the cost, on an annual basis and over time, to the Government of the annuity benefit in H.R. 5805, and what is the basis for that estimate?

(4) In its letter to the Subcommittee of August 27, 1984, the Office of Personnel Management objected to the health insurance eligibility provision of H.R. 5805 in part on the administrative ground that OPM does not have the records on CIA employees needed to carry out the provision. Does CIA have such records, or the ability to create them, and could CIA instead of OPM, or in coordination with OPM, more effectively administer the health insurance provision?

(5) Do most of CIA's personnel under cover participate in one particular plan available under the federal health insurance program? Would this make it easier to administer the health insurance provisions of H.R. 5805?

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(6) Please describe the current availability of health care to CIA personnel and their dependents serving overseas.

(7) Please estimate the expected duration of the need for funding the annuity provisions of H.R. 5805, given that the spouses divorced prior to November 15, 1982, eligible for annuities under this bill constitute a finite group and are probably in their middle years, and given the actuarial realities of life expectancies.

(8) If H.R. 5805 were enacted, how would you proceed to identify and notify CIA former spouses potentially eligible for benefits under H.R. 5805 of their potential rights?

(9) The annuity payable to a former CIA spouse divorced prior to November 15, 1982, who is eligible under this bill, would be paid from the CIA Retirement Fund or the Civil Service Fund, as appropriate. What would CIA's plans be to replace these withdrawals from the funds not based on previous contributions? Would you, for example, seek a specific appropriation or just allow the retirement funds to absorb a larger unfunded liability?

(10) Does the CIA actively assist spouses in finding overseas employment, whether with CIA or otherwise?

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(11) Does the CIA have any special policies or practices either encouraging or discouraging husband-wife case officer teams in which both spouses are full-time CIA staff employees?

(12) Would passage of this legislation place any undue administrative or operational burdens on the CIA? If so, how can those burdens be minimized and still accomplish the purposes of the bill?

(13) Assuming for purposes of discussion that the policy goals of H.R. 5805 were accepted, what specific amendments to H.R. 5805 would the CIA recommend?